Monitoring Committee for Implementation of Recommendations of the Bachawat Board

*159. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any monitoring committee has been appointed, as was recommended by the Bachawat Board in its report, to supervise the implementation of its recommendations; and

(b) if so, the number of daily, weekly and monthly newspapers and journals which come under the purview of the Bachawat Board recommendations and also those which have implemented the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) A Committee of Ministers has been set up by the Central Government to monitor implementation of the Bachawat Wage Board's recommendations. Several State Governments have also made arrangements to continuously oversee the implementation of these recommendations.

The recommendations of the Bhachawat Wage Boards apply to all newspapers establishments. According to information made available by the Registrar of Newspapers, the numbers of Daily|Weekly|monthly Newspapers|Journals as on 31-12-88 were 2281, 7813 and 8369 respectively. A newspaper establishment may publish more than one Daily, Weekly or Monthly newspaper|journal. Newspaper|journal-wise information regarding implementation of recommendations of the Bhachawat Wage Boards is not available. As per information available from State Governments, 137 newspaper establishments have so far implemented the recommendations of the Bhachawat Wage Boards.

Inefficiency and Laxity in the DDA

*160. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vice-Chairman of the DDA has recently stated that this organisation is "beleagured by inefficiency and laxity resulting in public harassments"; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken so far to streamline the functioning of this organisation?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The DDA has reported that mention of inefficiency and laxity resulting in public harassment was made by Acting Vice-Chairman in the context of complaints received from the public.

Among the steps taken in this regard are reiteration of instructions for improving punctuality and discipline among staff; *simplification of procedures mainly in* matters where the public is involved (e.g., issue of building permits, occupation completion certificates|C&D forms; transfer of possession of plots sold by DDA; extension of time for construction on plots; mutation$transfer of properties; demand letters for housing schemes; arbitration cases, registration formalities in housing schemes, etc.); public hearings twice a week for redressal of grievances; fixing of specific targets for field officers; periodic monitoring of their performance; etc.

Convering of Cotton Crop under Crop Insurance Scheme

526. SHRI JITENDRABHAI LABHSHANKER BHATT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to cover the cotton crop under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) and (b) The matter regarding inclusion of cotton crop under Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) has recently been referred for advice to the Standing Advisory Com-